

Application. No. 09/750,086

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This letter is responsive to the Office Action dated **January 29, 2003**. Under separate sheet of cover, Applicant encloses a request for a one month extension of time.

The following is a listing of the claims which are currently in the application:

- Claim 1-2: amended
- Claim 3: original
- Claim 4: amended
- Claim 5: original
- Claim 6: amended
- Claim 7-9: original
- Claim 10-11: withdrawn
- Claim 12: new

In the office action, the Examiner stated that the application contains claims directed to three patentably distinct species (Figures 1-7, Figures 8-12 and Figures 13-17), and that the Applicant must restrict prosecution to a single species. The Examiner also stated that none of the claims are generic.

Applicant provisionally elects species 2 (Figures 8-12), the claims readable thereon as being claims 1-6, 8-9 and 12 as amended herein. This is without prejudice to Applicant filing divisional applications to species I invention (Figures 1-7), and to species III invention (Figures 13-17).

By the present amendment, Applicant has amended claim 1 to require that the first container is adapted to fluidly couple to the first vessel and the second container is adapted to fluidly couple to the second vessel. Applicant respectfully submits that this claim as amended is generic, and includes within its scope each of the three species identified by the Examiner. Further, new claim 12 includes the former limitations of claim 1 including reference to first and second broachable closures and associated first and second broaching means. The dependencies in amended claims 2, 4 and 6 have been changed accordingly to reflect the aforementioned changes.

In view of the foregoing, an office action or notice of allowance is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner deem it beneficial to discuss the application in

greater detail, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at (416) 364-7311 at his convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew I. McIntosh', written in a cursive style.

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